

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) A modular device for coating surfaces of items, with a vacuum chamber, in which a physical ~~vapour~~ vapor deposition (PVD) method can be carried out;

wherein the vacuum chamber comprises at least one anode means as well as a plurality of receiving devices for cathodes; wherein several arcs between the anode means, of which there is at least one, and the cathodes can be ignited;

wherein a first receiving device for receiving at least one cathode is provided substantially in the ~~centre~~ center of the vacuum chamber; and at least one second receiving device for receiving at least one cathode on the edge of the vacuum chamber is provided, and the second receiving device is designed as a removable and/or swing-open door of the vacuum chamber;

~~wherein characterised in that~~ the second receiving device is designed for receiving several cathodes such that the cathodes are approximately cylindrical in shape which can be and are arranged substantially horizontally and substantially one on top of the other such that ~~they~~ the cathodes protrude into the vacuum chamber.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) The modular device according to claim 10, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein two second receiving devices are designed for receiving at least two cathodes each on the edge of the vacuum chamber as removable and/or swing-open doors of the vacuum chamber.

13. (Currently Amended) The modular device according to claim 10, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the first receiving device for receiving cathodes in the ~~centre~~center of the vacuum chamber is designed for receiving optionally one to four cathodes, ~~preferably rotating cathodes,~~ that are arranged so as to be substantially vertical and that are approximately cylindrical in shape.

14. (Currently Amended) The modular device according to claim ~~10~~13, ~~wherein the second receiving device each is designed for receiving the cathodes such that the cathodes are approximately cylindrical in shape~~ wherein each cathode is a rotating cathode.

15. (Previously Presented) The modular device according to claim 10, comprising a substrate arrangement means for receiving one or several items to be coated.

16. (Previously Presented) The modular device according to claim 10, wherein the vacuum chamber is the anode means.

17. (Previously Presented) The modular device according to claim 15, wherein the substrate arrangement means is a rotary carousel, and the rotary carousel is designed around the first receiving device.

18. (Currently amended) The modular device according to claim 17, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the rotary carousel is designed such that on the rotary carousel rotary trolleys can be arranged for receiving items to be coated, and/or for receiving satellites for receiving items to be coated.

19-21. (Canceled)

22. (New) The modular device in accordance with claim 10, wherein the second receiving device is designed for receiving several rotating cathodes.